J [75 cont.]
344 curtains, betel boxes, and other household goods are, of course,
352 much more costly and more abundant than in the dwelling of the poor farmer. The regent's dwelling, as we have noted, lies on the alun-alun, with the pandăpă in front of it (2).

2. Veth, Java, Vol. I, p. 600.

Materials

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335 As far as possible, the most durable kinds of wood are
342 chosen for the piles of the dwellings. Sometimes the piles are of considerable [76] thickness. Durable wood is also used for the beams and uprights (1).

1. Cf. for Java, Meded. Ned. Zend. Gen., Vol. XIX, p. 123 ff.

The walling is sometimes of boards, but usually of bamboo that is split and then flattened and plaited, wattle as it were,
MI called sasak. Tree bark is also used. In the Moluccas, the leaf
335 stems of the sago palm, gaba-gaba, or nipa leaves are often used. As partitions to divide the interior of the dwelling, planks are rarely used, but more often bamboo, tree bark, or matting; the compartments are often separated from one another only by a curtain of white or colored cotton cloth. The floors, too, are rarely made of boards. Laths of bamboo, nibong, banana, or
S palm woods are commonly used for them. A well-made bamboo
B floor has the advantage of being flexible and pliable, hence easy
MK to walk on with bare feet and comfortable for sleeping.
J
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335 The roof covering, or everything that serves as roofing,
342 is called atap, Jav. atĕp, Mak. atá, Bat. tarup. Atap is made from various materials; the most common is of palm leaves. Two kinds of palm in particular are used for this, the sago palm

2: Wilken--106 E-5 (ca. 1880) 1893 OB1 Indonesia OB1
Borneo OC1
Sumatra OD1
Redjang-Lampong OD12
Sundanese OE7
Batak OD5
Makassar OG6
Javanese OE5
Moluccos OH1

Sn Bt MK I J

[76 cont.]

(rumbia or Sundanese kirai) and the nipa palm. This is the way 335 342 atap is made. The leaves of the sago or nipa palm consist of a leaf stem and sword-shaped leaves that commonly are as wide as a hand and about as long as an ell. These sword-shaped leaves, while green, are laid next to one another in such a way that half of one leaf overlaps half of the next one. The leaves are then folded in two around a bamboo lath from one and a half to two meters long and are fastened with split rattan. Such an atap is one and a half to two meters long and 34 centimeters wide. Besides palm leaves, atap is also made from alang-alang, or, as it is sometimes called, ilalang, a stiff grass three to four feet high. A very good roof-covering, used especially on Sumatra, Sm M1 is the idjuk, Jav. ĕduk, in the Moluccas gemutu, the black, 335 342 horsehair-like fibers of the trunk of the areng palm. These fibers form whole pieces [77] which can simply be laid on the roof to a thickness of 10 to 15 centimeters. A roof covering of idjuk is not only extraordinarily durable, but also very handsome. It withstands the heat of the sun and moisture for 40 years, whereas a roof of alang-alang at most lasts for 15 to 20 years.

Br I 335 342 Another roof covering is made with the so-called sirappen, tiles made of rectangular, four-cornered boards with a point on the under end. Often, tree bark is used, especially among the Dajak (1) [Ed., no footnote is given]. The Government often uses this roof covering and has the sirappen made from teakwood or kaju bĕsi, ironwood. They are laid more or less like slates. R1

Sn J I 335 342 344 Finally, there is a roof covering of bamboo. As is known, bamboo has the shape of a tube; this is split through the middle longways, and a layer of these half-cylinders is laid on the roof with the hollow side up. A second layer is put over them with the convex side up, so that the cracks between the bamboo of the lower layer are covered. This kind of roof covering lasts two to three years. The slope of the roof, as a rule very steep, can be slight with such roofing. This roof covering is called talahab and is used particularly in the mountainous areas